

## Greenbelt Police Officers Honored

by Maurice Crawford



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT POLICE

Police Department employees receive awards for their actions during the April shooting incident at Schrom Hills Park. Front row, from left: Officer Aiden Simms, Corporal Konetta Brown. Second row: Chief Richard Bowers, Captain Jermaine Gulleddge, Lt. Michael Parsley, Master Police Officer Rakibur Rahman, Officer Jean-Paul Dang, Master Police Officer Dylan Davis, Officer Alexis Carranza. Third row: Officer Richard Millien Rondon, Public Information Officer Ricardo Dennis, Officer First Class Daniel Sandoval, Sergeant Irelisse Fernandez. Back row: Deputy Chief Tim White, Corporal James Bowne, Police Officer First Class Michael Watkins, Officer Isaiah Law, Officer Oscar Rodas Flores.

Chief Richard Bowers, during the Greenbelt City Council meeting on August 12, applauded police department employees for their actions during the April incident at Schrom Hills Park when five teens were wounded by gunfire. These employees

went above and beyond normal service in terms of providing life-saving first aid, securing the scene and performing the ensuing investigation. Bowers recognized them with three types of awards: (i) letters of commendation, (ii) Class One commendations and

(iii) Silver Star awards.

Those receiving letters of commendation were: Evidence Specialist Maria Auchter, Public Information Officer Ricardo Dennis, Officer Andrew Ordaz,

See **POLICE**, page 9

## PGCPS Bus Transportation Update

by Matthew Neus

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) outlined changes last week to better streamline school bus transportation ahead of the upcoming 2024-25 school year. These updates come after the many problems with bus transportation that marred the first

day of the 2023-24 school year. An ensuing audit of the PGCPS transportation system identified specific issues that are now being addressed.

In an effort to "ensure the safe, efficient and punctual transportation" of students, PGCPS introduced a new bell schedule for every school in the system. Greenbelt Elementary will shift to an 8:30 a.m. arrival and a 2:40 p.m., dismissal. Greenbelt Middle School will begin at 9:30 a.m. and dismissal at 4:10 p.m. while Eleanor Roosevelt High School students will start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 3:10 p.m.

Along with updated bell times for all PGCPS schools, some bus stop locations will be moved in an effort to consolidate stops. Prior to this upcoming school

year, 76 percent of students who are eligible for transportation – 65,000 – had a bus stop located 0.24 mile or less away from their home residence. The new plan increases the average distance for students to walk to their bus stop to 0.46 mile. New walking zones in which students are not considered to need bus transportation have been designated for this school year. Students in these zones who live close to their designated school and

See **BUSES**, page 6



PHOTO BY AMY HANSEN

School buses and crossing guards go back to work this week.

### What Goes On

**Monday, August 26**

**7:10 p.m.**, City Council Advisory Board Interviews (virtual)

**Wednesday, August 28**

**7:30 p.m.**, Council Worksession: Recognition Group Policy Review/Greenbelt Community Center Business Plan Review (virtual)

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at [greenbeltnmd.gov](http://greenbeltnmd.gov) for more information.

## Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Schedule for Friday, Saturday

by Tim King

At 6 p.m. on Friday, August 30, the Ferris wheel starts turning and the grills start sizzling as the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival returns to the town center. Carnival rides, bingo, fair food, sporting events, music performances, the big parade and a chance to connect with your community and neigh-



bors are all just around the corner. Here's a quick guide to getting the most out of this beloved summer-ending festival. This issue covers the events for Friday and Saturday; next week's issue will focus on events for Sunday and Monday.

See **FESTIVAL**, page 12

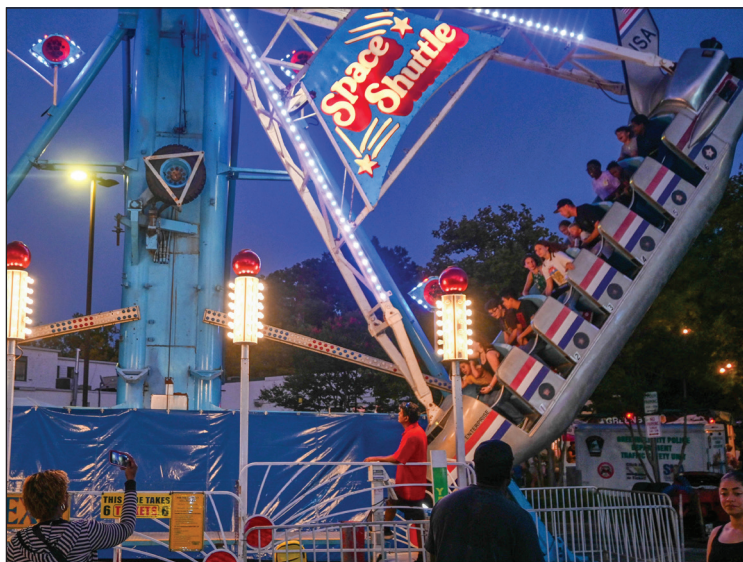


PHOTO BY SUNUNU BAH

People enjoy the Space Shuttle ride at last year's Labor Day Festival.

## Prince George's Public Schools Will Open Monday, August 26

by Bonnie Schrack

For the 2024-2025 school year, Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) has a new student information system, Synergy. Parents are asked to create an account in Synergy's ParentVUE portal, where they can register students for classes and access information on class schedules, test scores, attendance and transportation. Resources for learning to use ParentVUE can be found at [tinyurl.com/parentvue-support](http://tinyurl.com/parentvue-support) and through links on each school's website. Anyone who doesn't have access to a computer can visit the school to register students.

### New Student Orientation

This Friday, August 23, is Student Orientation Day for all new and transitioning students. Each school will provide details on times.

### Transportation

To prevent past problems with school bus transportation, PGCPS has made several changes. The number of students using the buses will be reduced by increasing the size of walking zones around each school. Once parents have set up their ParentVUE portal, they can download the Stopfinder app, which allows tracking of

See **SCHOOLS**, page 6



PHOTO BY AMY HANSEN

Laray Workman and Keith Brack examine plans for the new playground at Buddy Attick Park.

# Letters to the Editor

## Salmerón Saluted

Hats off to City Manager Josué Salmerón and staff for taking power washers to the plaza at Roosevelt Center. The grime and the moss are gone, and the amber tones of the pavement shine through now.

Such a transformation – even the benches are different, a light brown now – take a look for yourself!

Best of all, it took but a single inquiry, plus a follow-up email – no waiting, no having to build a campaign, gather support and so on.

“What universe is this?” I asked a friend about the city’s responsiveness. And when I went to thank Mr. Salmerón, he had an answer to that question.

“It’s the Universe of Greenbelt,” he said.

Mark W. Sherman  
Takoma Park

## Buddy Attick Park Needs New Stage

My husband has a band so this time of year I often go to his outdoor gigs. Most of the city parks in our area have beautiful permanent stages or bandshells with lights and electricity for PA systems and instruments. The local community businesses sponsor regular music events all summer which are fun for all ages. My question is, why does Greenbelt not have an attractive, permanent stage in Buddy Attick Park? If built, surely our local businesses would sponsor a summer concert series as it would bring new people to Greenbelt who could patronize their businesses. What we have there now is unusable and unattractive. What do you think about getting this in place for next summer, City Council?


Abby Crowley

Drop Us a Line!  
Electronically, that is.  
editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com

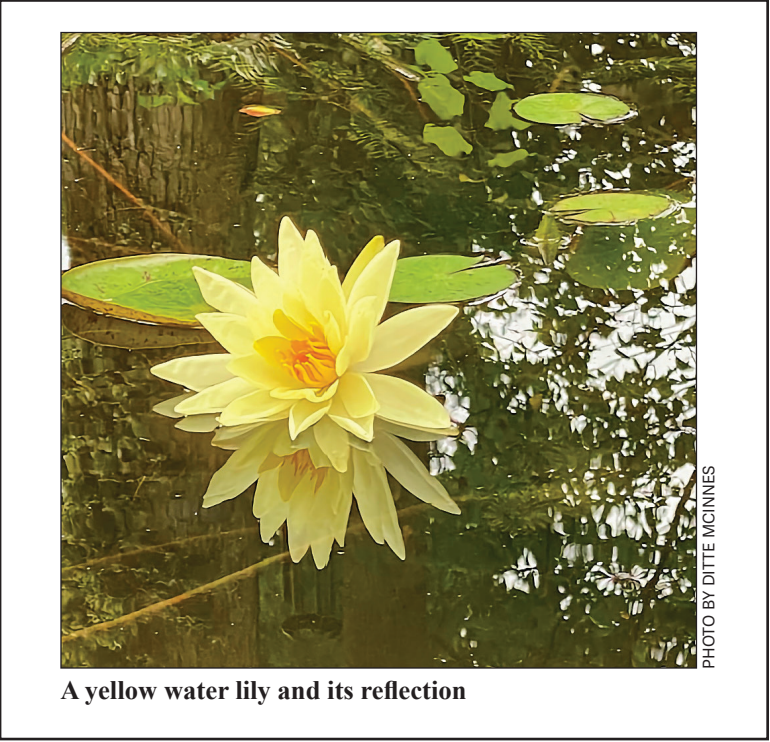
The Bus  
Seniors, Children with School ID  
and Customers with  
Disabilities RIDE FREE



PETE REPERT



"ME FAVORITE SUBJECTS?  
ARRRITHMETIC, GRAMMARRR  
AND AAAAA!"



## On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

### Fly Me to the Moon

Starring Scarlett Johansson and Channing Tatum, the film is a stylish romantic comedy set against the high-stakes backdrop of NASA’s historic Apollo 11 moon landing. When she is brought in to fix NASA’s public image, sparks fly in all directions as marketing maven Kelly Jones (Johansson) wreaks havoc on launch director Cole Davis’s (Tatum) already difficult task. When the White House deems the mission too important to fail, the countdown truly begins.

### Didi

In 2008, during the last month of summer before high school begins, an impressionable 13-year-old Taiwanese American boy learns what his family can’t teach him: how to skate, how to flirt and how to love your mom. Critic’s consensus: “A semi-autobiographical love letter to teenage angst that’s also slyly self-critical, [the film] is a deeply moving personal statement by writer-director Sean Wang.”

### Wild Strawberries

Crotchety retired doctor Isak Borg (Victor Sjöström) travels from Stockholm to Lund, Sweden, with his pregnant and unhappy daughter-in-law, Marianne (Ingrid Thulin), in order to receive an honorary degree from his alma mater. Along the way, they encounter a series of hitchhikers, each of whom causes the elderly doctor to muse upon the pleasures and failures of his own life. These include the vivacious young Sara (Bibi Andersson), a dead ringer for the doctor’s own first love.

### The Song Remains the Same

Filmed in 1973 over the course of a three-night stand at New York City’s Madison Square Garden, this concert film shows Led Zeppelin at the apogee of their hard-rocking glory. In addition to featuring such indelible hits as Dazed and Confused, Whole Lotta Love and Stairway to Heaven, the live footage is interspersed with elaborate fantasy sequences, backstage shenanigans and a glimpse of what the business side of such a large touring operation entails.



Greenbelt Cinema  
129 Centerway  
301-329-2034  
www.greenbeltcinema.org

Members Always \$6.50!  
Member kids are always FREE!

Adults \$9, Kids \$6,  
Senior/Student/Military \$8

All shows before 5 PM:  
Adults \$7, Kids \$5

OC = Open Captions  
CC = Closed Captions  
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:  
AUGUST 23rd - 29th

Fly Me to the Moon (PG-13)  
(CC) (DVS) (2024) (131 mins)  
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium  
Fri. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM  
Sat. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM  
Sun. 1:00 PM (OC), 4:00 PM  
Tues. 7:00 PM  
Screen 2 - The Screening Room  
Mon. 1:00 PM, 4:00 PM  
Wed. 7:45 PM  
Thurs. 7:00 PM

Didi (R) (CC) (DVS) (2024)  
(93 mins)  
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium  
Mon. 2:15 PM (OC), 5:00 PM  
Wed. 5:30 PM  
Thurs. 7:15 PM  
Screen 2 - The Screening Room  
Fri. 5:15 PM, 7:45 PM  
Sat. 5:15 PM, 7:45 PM  
Sun. 1:15 PM, 4:15 PM  
Tues. 7:15 PM

Wild Strawberries (NR)  
(1957) (91 mins)  
Film in Focus  
Led by Dr. Caitlin McGrath  
Capped at 25  
Screen 2 - The Screening Room  
Mon. 7:00 PM


The Song Remains the Same  
(PG) (1976) (132 mins)  
Summer Concert Series  
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium  
Thurs. 1:00 PM

Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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HOA information at: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution


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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:  
- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).  
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).  
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.  
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.  
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.  
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.  
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.



**Greenbelt Access Television**  
**Aug 24, Sat - Aug 30, Fri**  
**Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77**  
 (School Programming on Your Cable Guide)  
**Streaming on [www.greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org)**

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**THIS WEEK on GAtE • Your Community Access Station**  
 Featured Film (9am, 3pm, and 8pm)  
**The Woman in Green (1945)**

This mystery film, based on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's "The Final Problem" and "The Adventure of the Cardboard Box", takes us on a thrilling journey with none other than our favorite sleuths: Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson!

**Now This Month**  
**Meet Kennedy Taylor, Miss Maryland 2023!**

In this very special interview (hosted by Doll), Kennedy recounts the past year she served as Miss Maryland from June 2023 through June 2024, sharing her thoughts and insights on winning versus losing, the importance of cybersecurity, inner and outer beauty, and much more!

All this and more on the GAtE channel this week! Check [greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://greenbeltaccessstv.org) for the full broadcast schedule, and visit [Greenbelt Access Television on YouTube](#) for new video productions.

# Obituaries

## Dana Britton



Dana Britton

In the early hours of Friday, August 9, 2024, her 64th birthday, Dana Britton died while surrounded by family singing hymns of praise to God.

Dana was a beloved daughter and stepdaughter, a cherished sister and sister-in-law, a loving stepmother, a fun aunt to over two dozen nieces and nephews and a loyal friend. She brought joy and laughter to almost every person and challenge in her life. At her core, she was an artist, a muse, a poet, a painter, a photographer, a fashionista – as well as a comic with sudden turns of phrase that made a person go “What?” before laughing hilariously.

She was the consummate cosmetic professional and skin-care specialist who brought warmth, knowledge, joy and empathy into her workplace and client relationships.

Born into a military family, Dana lived in several places during her early years. After graduating from Suitland High School, she moved to Greenbelt, and then attended the University of Maryland in College Park, graduating with a bachelor’s degree in marketing. Later, Annapolis became her home where she thoroughly enjoyed the water, the restaurants and the entire Annapolis vibe.

**CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT MASS**  
Sunday 10:00 a.m.  
City Council Room  
25 Crescent Rd  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**  
OR - Join us on ZOOM!  
For ZOOM link:  
CCG1985+owner@groups.io  
cathcomgreenbelt.org

**Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Christ-centered  
Biblical  
& Reformed  
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am  
Sunday School 9:15am  
Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm  
101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD  
www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Dana was born August 9, 1960, at Portsmouth, Va., Naval Hospital, the youngest of four children. She is survived by her mom Jessi Taylor Britton of Greenbelt; her dad Royal C. Britton (Ada) of Bear Grass, N.C.; her sister Wanda Holson (Gene); brothers Ron (Melissa) and Cliff (Angela); and stepsister Renee Pennington.

A Christian funeral will be held at Mid-Atlantic Community Church, 2485 Davidsonville Road, Gambrills, Md., on Wednesday, August 28. The family will receive visitors beginning at 11 a.m. The service will begin at 11:30 a.m. with a luncheon immediately afterward. A private interment will be held at a later date in Chocowinity, N.C.

To help the family estimate attendance, please email DanaBrittonmemorial@gmail.com with the number of people attending from your family.

## Maura Warner

Maura Caughey Warner (she/her/they/them) died suddenly in July after a long struggle with treatment-resistant depression. Maura was the daughter of Stephanie (Brown) Warner and Jeremy Warner and the sister of Asha Warner.

Maura was born in Maryland on September 6, 1990, and grew up in 14 Court Laurel Hill Road. She attended Greenbelt Co-op Nursery School, Friends Community School in College Park, Sidwell Friends School in Washington, D.C., and Macalester College in Minnesota. Maura worked as a software engineer in Boston over the past decade.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2024, at Adelphi Friends Meeting in Adelphi. More about Maura and the service will be published in the News Review in early October.

## Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

## Donate Sneakers For People in Need

Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ (GCC) is collecting athletic shoes by partnering with GotSneakers. This sneaker recycling program helps to keep sneakers out of landfills, where they have harmful effects on the environment.

A donation box is located outside the Fellowship Center (the small building behind the church) for people to drop off sneakers at any time.

**Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church**  
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt  
Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors  
Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc  
301-474-5410  
Pastor Evelyn Romero  
Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
Celebrate hope with us.



**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704  
301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org  
Welcomes you each Sunday for  
Worship & Sunday School  
at 10:00 AM

**Greenbelt Community Church**  
One Hillside Road  
We are an  
Open and Affirming  
Church  
Join Us Sunday  
10:15 AM  
for Worship  
and Church School  
www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD  
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org



**ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
• Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am\*, Sat 9am\*  
• Sunday Mass:  
◦ Sat vigil 5pm\*  
◦ Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am  
• Confessions Saturday 3pm – 4pm.  
Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.  
\*Live streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.  
CELEBRATE WITH US  
135 Crescent Rd.  
www.sthughofgrenoble.org





Condolences to the family and friends of Maura Warner, who died in July. Maura grew up in Greenbelt and attended Greenbelt Co-op Nursery School.

Our sympathy also to the friends and family of former Greenbelter Dana Britton. Her mother, Jessi, worked on the ad desk at the News Review for many years

Congratulations to Ava Howard of Lakewood on successfully passing her board exam and becoming a certified Pharmacy Tech in the State of Maryland. Ava pursued the certification through her studies at Elizabeth Seton High School and completed her internship at the Safeway pharmacy in Greenbelt. This fall, Ava will be attending University of Maryland with plans to continue her studies in health and science.

Congratulations to the Greenbelt Police on their awards and


a heartfelt thanks for the work they did during and after the shooting incident at Schrom Hills Park last April.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

## GILA Holds Memorial Service at the Festival

Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association is holding their Greenbelt Resident Memorial Service at the Labor Day Festival on Sunday, September 1. Those who have a relative or friend who died between Labor Day 2023 and the present are asked to review the list on greenbeltinterfaith.org. Click the Memorials 2024 tab in the far right of the top bar for the list. Use the contact form to send any changes, corrections or additions.

“... the concept of power as a means of domination, with the accompanying notions of contest, contention, division and superiority, must be left behind.”  
– Universal House of Justice

**Greenbelt Bahá’í Community**  
www.greenbeltbahais.org

**The Bible Says...**  
‘Do not fear, for I am with you;  
Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God.  
I will strengthen you, surely I will help you,  
Surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.’  
Isaiah 41:10

**Sunday Worship Services**  
10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School  
(66 Ridge Rd.)  
**MCFcc.org**

**Mishkan Torah Congregation**  
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield  
An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.  
Friday evening services at 8:00pm  
Saturday morning services at 10:00am  
Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities  
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org  
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism



**Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church**  
Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725  
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org  
Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community  
August 25, 2024 at 3:00 pm  
**The Quintessence of (Star)dust**  
Anthony Jenkins  
In the spirit of August’s theme (Change), we’ll explore the relationship between scientific exploration and spiritual transformation – through the heartfelt revelations of some of contemporary science’s brightest minds.  
Streaming on PBUUC’s Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD



**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**  
-Missouri Synod-  
6905 Greenbelt Road  
SUNDAY  
Divine Service:  
9:30am  
Fellowship/Bible Study:  
11:00am  
LITURGICAL  
SACRAMENTAL  
BIBLICAL



**At the Library**  
Greenbelt Library regular hours are Mondays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m. Face masks are recommended for all customers over the age of 2.

**Weekly Storytimes**  
Friday, August 23, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/10815022](#).  
Wednesday, August 28, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/10815000](#).  
Thursday, August 29, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/10814970](#).  
Come join in for stories, songs, fingerplays and more.

**GIVES Needs Drivers**  
The Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service (GIVES) is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization that helps adult Greenbelt residents with transportation and friendly visits, along with other services. More drivers are urgently needed to meet the increase in requests for services. To be a driver for GIVES, one needs to be a resident of Greenbelt, a member of GIVES, have a valid Maryland license and insurance, and obtain a free background check. Membership is free. For information or an application, call 301-507-6580 or visit [givesgreenbelt.org](#).

**Volunteers Needed**  
The Greenbelt Makerspace seeks volunteers to staff the tool library and organize classes and other events. People are asking for more open hours. Help is needed for the tool library to expand. Sign up for shifts at [signup.com/go/UNkLnqk](#) or email us at [staff@make125.org](#) if interested in other times or jobs.  
The Greenbelt Makerspace is down the outside stairs on the west side of the Granite Building at 115 Centerway.

**City Notes**  
The city manager and planning staff met to discuss a potential memorandum of understanding with the state, county and Metro regarding the FBI development at the Greenbelt Metro Station. They also met with Dewberry engineers to discuss the WMATA trail project.  
Greenbelt CARES participated in the CCI Health Services Fourth Annual Block Party in Franklin Park Apartments, along with several other community organizations.

Recreation, Therapeutic Recreation and Inclusion staff concluded a successful nine weeks of summer camps at the Community Center and session 5 of Summer Camp at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Staff hosted an American Red Cross blood drive and attended a Golden Age Club meeting.  
Arts staff hosted a highly attended Artful Afternoon at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, featuring tie-dye. Staff also held a needle felting workshop, Parent’s Night Out and an Art Share.  
The Animal Shelter is hosting five dogs, five adult cats and one kitten. Planning is underway for the annual Pooch Plunge, scheduled for Saturday, September 7.

**Greenbelt Chess Club**  
The Greenbelt Chess Club meets on Tuesday, August 27. The meetings take place in the Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels.  
Direct questions to [greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com](#).



**Français, s’il vous plaît: French at the Café**  
A group of people interested in speaking French meets at the New Deal Café every Thursday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. All ages, all levels of fluency are welcome.



**Attention Filmmakers**  
Mark your calendars for the 20th anniversary of the Utopia Film Festival October 18 to 21. Submit your films! For questions contact the Festival organizers at [UtopiaFilmFest20770@gmail.com](#) or call GATe at 301-507-6581.

**Community Orchestra Welcomes Musicians**  
Greenbelt Community Orchestra rehearses on Thursday evenings and welcomes new members, especially string players. For more information, visit [GreenbeltOrchestra.org](#).



# City Information & Events

*The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.*

## MEETINGS FOR AUGUST 26 - 30

- Monday, August 26 at 7:10 pm, **ADVISORY BOARD INTERVIEWS (VIRTUAL)**
- Monday, August 26 at 7:30 pm, **SPECIAL MEETING / CLOSED SESSION - PERSONNEL MATTERS, POTENTIAL LITIGATION, AND PUBLIC SECURITY (VIRTUAL)**
- Tuesday, August 27 at 3:30 pm, **SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, *On the Agenda: Approval of Agenda/Meeting Minutes (April), Discussion of Annual Open Forum Event Planned for September*
- Tuesday, August 27 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**, *On the Agenda: Minutes of June Meeting, Labor Day Parade, Report on Council’s Work Session with Advisory Committee Chairs, Grants Planning*
- Tuesday, August 27 at 7:30 pm, **GREEN ACES AND GREEN TEAM**, *On the Agenda: Signed Letter from USDN (Urban Sustainability Directors Network) Against Congress Defunding DEI and Climate Change Initiatives, Update on Committee/Board Chair Work Session, Next EV Event in Greenbelt Center (9/22), Curbside Compost Pickup Grant Updates*
- Wednesday, August 28 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - RECOGNITION GROUP POLICY REVIEW / GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER BUSINESS PLAN REVIEW (VIRTUAL)**
- In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltmd.gov](#). This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar](#).*

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1)(8) and (10) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Monday, August 26, 2024, immediately following the Advisory Board Interviews, virtually via Zoom: 1) to discuss the appointment, performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; 2) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation; and 3) to discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans.

The purpose of this meeting is 1) to address personnel matters over which this public body has jurisdiction; 2) to consult with staff about pending or potential litigation; and 3) to discuss the deployment of fire staff.

*\* The public may attend the Special Council Meeting of the City Council immediately before the closed session and observe the vote of the Council to move into the closed session on Monday, August 26, 2024.*

Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Deputy City Clerk

## COMPOST YOUR FOOD SCRAPS

Join Round 2 of Our Composting Pilot Program

For one year your food scraps can be collected for free to reduce food waste and return valuable compost to Greenbelt: Open to all Greenbelt residents. You may join the program in combination with close-by neighbors to help fill the 7-gallon tote for weekly pickup. Purchase the collection tote for a one-time \$20 cost.

Register with Compost Crew at [https://compostcrew.com/greenbelt/](#).

## COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES

VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, the Youth Advisory Committee, or the Advisory Committee on Education**, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Community Relations Advisory Board, Employee Relations Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, or the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and make a difference in Greenbelt!

By dedicating your time and expertise, you will help shape the future of Greenbelt and create a community that values the voices of all its residents. Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

## GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar](#).



## CURRENT CARES PROGRAMS

- CARES is happy to provide the following programs FREE of charge:
- Pink Pantry Opn Registration.** This quarterly program assists low-income Greenbelt residents to access free menstrual products. To register call (240) 424-0302 or email [bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov](#).
  - Greenbelt Nursery Project.** Our Greenbelt Nursery project is dedicated to supporting families with young children. We provide 6 Home Visits that offer personalized care and resources. To register call (240) 424-0302 or email [bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov](#).
  - Emergency Diaper Distribution.** Must register [https://forms.gle/q92AAhgUyNhQ43UU8](#). Call (240) 424-0302.
  - Produce Distribution** at the Greenbelt Municipal Building, Lower Level Parking Lot, 25 Crescent Road  
*Upcoming Dates: September 19, from 1 - 3 pm*
  - Produce Distribution** at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Ln (*Greenbelt West Residents Only*)  
*Upcoming Dates: September 19, from 3 - 4:15 pm*

For descriptions and information, visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/CARESPprograms](#) and see ads on this page!

## GREENBELT LABOR DAY WEEKEND

**70th Annual Greenbelt Labor Day Festival**  
**August 30 - September 2**  
Carnival, food, craft fair, parade, live entertainment, photo & art show, used book sale, games, and more! [www.greenbeltlaborday.com](#).

**Recreation Activities**  
**August 30 - September 2, varies between 10 am - 6 pm**  
Join Greenbelt Recreation for a weekend full of fun and games. Activities will be happening between 10 am - 6 pm at Braden Field & the Youth Center. Check our full list of activities at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar](#).

## POOCH PLUNGE!

Saturday, September 7  
11 am - 3 pm

*Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center, 101 Centerway*

Join us on Saturday, September 7 at the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center for Pooch Plunge 2024! There will be two sessions: 11 am - 12:50 pm and 1 - 3pm. Entry is \$10 per dog, exact cash only please. One dog per handler, and handlers must be 18+.

You must show proof of rabies vaccination to enter and please note, \*\*\*\*tags are not sufficient\*\*\*\* 50 dogs max per session, first come, first serve. No handlers in the pool and swimming with the dogs is not allowed. You can pick up registration forms beforehand at the Aquatic Center or at the Police booth during the Labor Day Festival!

## BUDDY ATTICK PARK DRAFT MASTER PLAN WORK SESSION

Wednesday, October 16, 7:30 pm

*Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road*

The Buddy Attick Park (BAP) Draft Master Plan can be viewed online at [https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/BAPMP](#).

A City Council Work Session is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16 at 7:30pm in the Greenbelt Municipal Building (25 Crescent Road). The City Council Work Session is open to the public. If you would like to provide written feedback, please send your comments to [BAPproject@greenbeltmd.gov](#) by Friday, October 4, 2024.

## FEATURED PETS

MORNING GLORY

Ready for Adoption?  
Call (301) 474-6124

*Although they might look cozy together, Morning Glory (left) would rather go to a home where she can be the center of attention. Morning Glory was rescued from an abandoned apartment back in April with her two siblings, Zorro (right) and Domino — who are both still available for adoption! Although Zorro and Domino really like their cat roommates at the shelter, Morning Glory really just wants her humans all to herself so she doesn’t have to compete for attention. In return, she’ll shower you with all the love in the world (and make sure your lap is never empty).*

If you’re interested in adopting this diva cat, call (301) 474-6124 or email us at [animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov!](#)



## SCHOOLS continued from page 1

school bus locations in real time. All PGCPs students can also now ride The Bus free of charge with their school ID, without needing to register in advance. (For more school bus information, see story on page 1.)

### Immunizations

Immunizations are required for all students to attend school. The rule is no shots, no school, no exceptions. For families who lack insurance or whose insurance doesn't cover immunizations, the county offers immunizations on a sliding-fee scale at the Cheverly Health Center, 3003 Hospital Drive, Cheverly, and the Laurel Clinic, 14207 Park Center Drive, Laurel, on Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. More information can be found at [pgcps.org/immunizations](http://pgcps.org/immunizations).

### Backpacks

Clear backpacks are required for all students in grades 9 through 12 and in nontraditional programs. They are optional for students in grades 6 through 8. Students may carry a small, non-transparent pouch inside the backpack for personal items.

### Free, Reduced-price Meals

Students receive applications for free and reduced-price meals to take home in the first week of school; applications can be turned in at any time. For more information, call 301-952-6517.

### Back-to-School Nights

Each school has a back-to-school night for parents to meet school administrators and teachers and learn about expectations and resources. The dates and times, along with other school information, are listed below for each school in Greenbelt.

#### Greenbelt Elementary

Greenbelt Elementary School hours are 8:30 a.m. to 2:40 p.m. The principal is Joel L. Nelson. No uniforms are required for students. Back-to-School Night will be Thursday, September 5 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For further information, see [pgcps.org/schools/greenbelt-elementary](http://pgcps.org/schools/greenbelt-elementary).

#### Magnolia Elementary

School hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 3:40 p.m. The principal is Sharelle Staggs.

Uniforms are required for students: navy blue bottoms, yellow tops (the website will be updated with details sometime on Monday).

Back-to-School Night will be Thursday, September 19 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For information on supplies and more, see [pgcps.org/schools/magnolia-elementary](http://pgcps.org/schools/magnolia-elementary).



#### Springhill Lake Elementary

School hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 1:40 p.m. The principal is Trena Wilson.

Uniforms are required for students: Navy blue pants, shorts or skirts; no jeans or leggings. Shorts or skirts must be at least fingertip length. White, light blue or navy polo shirts; optional navy blue cardigan sweater. No hoodies, no sandals or flip-flops.

Back-to-School Night for kindergarten through 2nd grade will be Wednesday, September 4 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., and for 3rd to 5th grades, Thursday, September 5 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For information on supplies and more, see [pgcps.org/schools/springhill-lake-elementary](http://pgcps.org/schools/springhill-lake-elementary).

#### Dora Kennedy French

##### Immersion

School hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 4:10 p.m. The principal is James Spence and the assistant principal is Sandrine Boukabara. No uniforms are required for students. Back-to-School Night for kindergarten through 5th grade will be Wednesday, September 11 from 6 to 8 p.m., and for 6th to 8th grades, Thursday, September 12, from 6 to 8 p.m. For information on supplies and more, see [pgcps.org/schools/dora-kennedy-french-immersion](http://pgcps.org/schools/dora-kennedy-french-immersion).

#### Greenbelt Middle

School hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 4:10 p.m. The principal is Marcellus Clement and the parent engagement assistant for help with ParentVUE is Carlos Pugh. The Friday, August 23 student orientation will be from 9:30 a.m. to 1:10 p.m. School buses will run on a half-day schedule on that day. All students at Greenbelt Middle are offered free breakfast and lunch.

Uniforms are required for students: khaki/tan pants or knee-length shorts, with belt or khaki/tan knee-length skirts. Shirt colors are green for 6th graders, white for 7th graders and black for 8th graders.

Back-to-School Night will be Tuesday, September 10 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. For more information, see [pgcps.org/schools/greenbelt-middle](http://pgcps.org/schools/greenbelt-middle).

#### Eleanor Roosevelt High

School hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 3:10 p.m. The principal is Portia M. Barnes. No uniform is required, but clear backpacks are required for all students. Back-to-School Night will be Wednesday, September 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information, see [pgcps.org/schools/eleanor-roosevelt-high](http://pgcps.org/schools/eleanor-roosevelt-high).



## BUSES continued from page 1

have a safe pedestrian route will not receive bus transportation to and from school. The PGCPs is working with county agencies, including crossing guard units, the Department of Public Works & Transportation, and school resource officers, to ensure that these walk zones will be safe for students. According to Transportation Director Keba Baldwin, the school system and these agencies will meet once a month to review the new procedures.

Families also have the option to opt out of receiving bus transportation, such as for students who will receive daily rides to and from school or are student drivers. The school system received around 3,000 opt-out requests in a survey sent to parents,

said Baldwin.

Those who utilize bus transportation during the school year can download the Stopfinder App. The app is described as offering GPS tracking of buses, notifications when a bus picks up and drops off students and notifications when buses are running late.

These updates to transportation are part of the school system's "Phase 1" that will be completed during the current school year, with more improvements during "Phase 2" to come during the 2025-26 school year.

*Matthew Neus is a student in the University of Maryland Philip Merrill College of Journalism and a summer intern at the News Review.*

**Caution:  
Endangered Species!  
Your local newspaper...**

We need writers, office staff and copy-editors. Even a few hours helps! As a member cooperative, we offer a token dividend for work.

[www.greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://www.greenbeltnewsreview.com)



## St. Hugh's School Alumni Celebrate 60th Anniversary



PHOTO BY KATHY DAVIS

From left, back row: Patrick Murphy, John Childers, Dennis Miller, Danny Kosisky, Tom Brady, Joe Davis, Tom Haslinger and Kevin Kistler; front row, Kixie Aulisio, Kathy Labukas, Teresa Capotosto, Janet Gaffney Bernard, Ann Barcus Curran, Karen McFarland and Mary Anne McDonald Papale

On July 23, some Greenbelt "old timers" celebrated the 60th anniversary of their grade-school graduation (1964) from St. Hugh's Catholic School. A good time was had by all, as they

shared many stories, friendships and experiences of growing up in Greenbelt. Attendees felt fortunate to be residents of Greenbelt during that time. They hope to do it again in 10 years.



PHOTO BY JOE ROBBINS

Cauliflower mushroom found in the North Woods (Greenbelt Forest Preserve)



**Greenbelt Labor Day Festival  
August 30-September 2**

**Pay-One-Price  
Ride Wristbands**

**\$20 at the Greenbelt Co-op  
Supermarket, 121 Centerway  
Available now through August 29**

Must redeem at ticket booth

Saturday, August 31 or

Sunday, September 1

Opening to 5pm

Wristband good single day only

Subject to cancellation due to weather conditions

No Refunds or Rain Checks

**[greenbeltlaborday.com](http://greenbeltlaborday.com)**



## LUNCHEON ON THE LAWN



Adult \$10  
Children \$7

Join us for this annual event immediately following the Greenbelt Labor Day Parade.

**2  
SEPT**

Greenbelt Community  
Church UCC  
One Hillside Road

**AFTER  
PARADE**

Barbecue, cole slaw, baked beans, dessert

## SCHOOL for the dish of the day. best served cold. Scandal

BY RICHARD BRINSLEY SHERIDAN



a rude mechanicals production

in residence at

the greenbelt arts center

123 centerway, greenbelt

8pm fri & sat

aug 23, 24, 30, 31,

sep 6, 7

2pm sun

aug 25 (facemasks required), sep 1

pay what you will 8pm wed

aug 28

[rudemechanicals.com](http://rudemechanicals.com)

[greenbeltartscenter.org](http://greenbeltartscenter.org)

## Greenbelt Labor Day Festival extends its appreciation to our sponsors:

**Donate here:**  
[greenbeltlaborday.com/sponsors/](https://greenbeltlaborday.com/sponsors/)



### SPONSORS AND CONTRIBUTORS

**President's Circle (\$1,000+):** National Cooperative Bank, Lafayette Federal Credit Union

**Patrons (\$500+):** The Baravechia Family, Choice Clinical Services; Connie Davis; Greenbelt Cinema; Greenbelt Service Center/ Sunoco; McCarl Dental Group; Mary Lou Williamson; Trusted and Innovative Wellness Clinic

**Sponsors (\$250+):** Beltway Plaza Merchants Association, Borgwardt Funeral Home, Greenbelt Auto & Truck, Kevin Murphy

**Contributors (\$100+):** Chris and Jo Anna Capp, Judith "J" Davis, Jon & Anne Gardner, Alfredo Goyburu, Tom & Johanna Jones, Kristine and Kristopher Smith, Kristen Weaver, Anonymous

**Supporters (\$50+):** David Granite; Emmett V. Jordan, Danielle McKinney

**Additional Thanks To:** Captain Jermaine Gulledge and Officer Abbey Kipke, Greenbelt Police Department; Joe Mulhare, Freddy Herrera, and David Burr, Greenbelt Public Works; Adam Daelemans, Greenbel Recreation; Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department; Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy; New Deal Café; The Bachelor and the Bad Actress; The Borrowed Brothers; Melanie Cantwell

#### 2024 Outstanding Citizen Sponsors and Contributors -

**Primary Sponsors:** Rotary Club of Greenbelt

**Co-sponsors:** Fieldstone Properties, LLC. – Franklin Park at Metro Station, Greenbelt Credit Union, The SPACE-freeartforall, CHEARS

**Generous Supporter:** Exxon Gas Station – Hanover Parkway

**Supporters:** Cedars of Lebanon, East Pearl Bistro

**Gift/Donation:** Greenbelt Art Center; Greenbelt Cooperative and Pharmacy; Greenbelt Cinema; Greenbelt Barber and Stylist; Generous Joe's; Greenway Liquors; Greenbelt Nursery School; Jersey Mike's Subs – Beltway Plaza; New Deal Café; Silver Diner; Three Brothers, Greenbelt; Wood Flowers & Gifts – College Park

### 2024 Labor Day Festival Committee

#### GLDF Board

President : Karen Yoho  
Vice President : Donna Peterson  
Treasurer: Jon Gardner  
Secretary: Kathy Reynolds  
At-Large Board Members:  
Keith Zevallos, Linda Ivy, Emily Cole

#### GLDF Committee

Michael Cooney, Abby Crowley,  
Charles Dorsey, Anne Gardner,  
Deborah Honecker, Davina Johnson,  
Amy Knesel, Diane Siegel, Lisa Stand,  
Wayne Williams, Dave Zahren and  
Robert Zugby

#### City Liaisons to the Committee

Captain Jermaine Gulledge and Officer  
Abbey Kipke, Greenbelt Police  
Adam Daelemans, Greenbelt Recreation  
Joe Mulhare and Freddy Herrera,  
Greenbelt Public Works



**Shuttle bus service will be provided by O'Brien Bus Service.**  
**The shuttle will alternate between routes to pick up and drop off Festival goers approximately every 45 minutes.**

#### Route 1:

Greenbelt Elementary School,  
Green Ridge House (residents only),  
Eleanor Roosevelt High School

Friday 6pm to 11pm;  
Saturday 10:30am to 11pm  
Sunday Noon to 11pm; Monday 1pm to 6pm

#### Route 2:

Greenbelt Elementary School  
Springhill Lake Recreation Center Parking Lot  
Greenbelt Metro Kiss & Ride Lot  
Greenbelt Station Townhouses

Friday 6pm to 10pm; Saturday 3pm to 10pm  
Sunday 3pm to 10pm; Monday 9am to 5pm

At the Festival, the shuttle will depart from in front of the city offices and from Roosevelt Center. During the parade, the shuttle will depart from the Festival grounds (near the intersection of Crescent Road and Westway) and return parade participants to Buddy Attick Park.



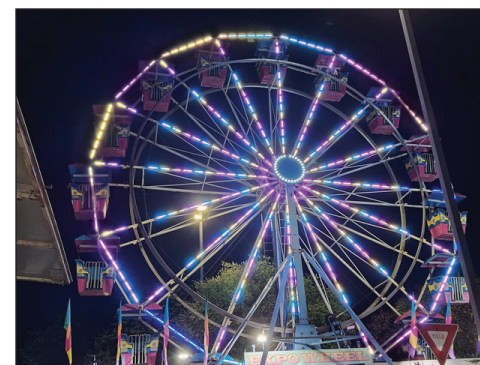
# 70th Annual Greenbelt Labor Day Festival

**Friday, Aug. 30 through Monday, Sept. 2, 2024**



### Festival Hours

Friday – 6pm to 11pm  
Saturday – 11am to 11pm  
Sunday – Noon to 11pm  
Monday – 11am to 6pm



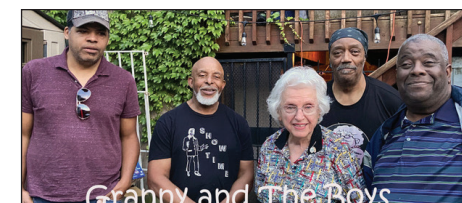
Rides and booksale:  
all weekend!



### Greenbelt City Council Welcomes You to the 70th Annual Festival



Standing from left, Councilmembers Amy Knesel, Rodney Roberts, Silke Pope, Danielle McKinney, and sitting from left, Councilmember Jenni Pompi, Mayor Emmett Jordan and Mayor Pro Tem Kristen Weaver



Granny and The Boys  
Granny and The Boys, Saturday, 5:30-7:30pm



Greenbelt Honk! Situation, Sunday, noon-1:30pm;  
Parade, Monday, 10am-noon

Visit us at [www.greenbeltlaborday.com](https://www.greenbeltlaborday.com). Follow us on Facebook!

# Why Cook?

Eat Out at the Festival!

## Food Booths in the Carnival Midway include:

**Food Fest:** Grilled Chicken on a stick, Veggie Lomein, Fruit Smoothies  
**Janguero Mobile Bar:** Pina Colada, Iced Coffee, Grilled Caprese Sandwiches  
**Catalyst Hot Dogs:** Hot Dogs, smash burgers, wings  
**Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Democratic Club:** Funnel Cakes  
**Good To Da Bone BBQ:** BBQ ribs, Chicken, Pulled Pork  
**Little Italy Sausage Company:** Lemonade, Italian Sausage, Lobster Mac N Cheese  
**Tropical Cuisine:** Jerk Chicken, Oxtail, Curry Chicken  
**Festival Concessions:** French Fries, Chicken Tenders  
**Nina's Cookie Explosion:** Cookies  
**Snoball Hut:** Snoballs  
**PKG Mobile Kitchen:** Fish, Chicken Burgers, Steak & Cheese  
**Paradise Island Cuisine:** Jerk, Teriyaki Chicken, Vegan Basmati Paella, Barbancort Tacos

Water and sodas available throughout the Festival. Bring a refillable water bottle and fill at restaurants, the Municipal Building, or the Aquatic Center.

## Carnival Midway Booths & Activities

Ride tickets AT THE FESTIVAL - \$2.00/each, \$30.00 for 25 tickets, and \$35.00 for the "All You Can Ride Wristband" for unlimited rides during certain times on ONE DAY ONLY. Choose to use the wristband between 11am to 5pm Saturday OR noon to 5pm Sunday. Prices subject to change without notice. No refunds. Discount wristband vouchers will be on sale for a limited time at Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket & Pharmacy. These \$20 vouchers can be redeemed at the Festival for the wristband on Saturday or Sunday. All you can ride Saturday (11am-5pm) OR Sunday (Noon-5pm). You can purchase at the registers with cash or credit!

No charge for entertainment, shows, or events unless noted.

**Greenbelt Elementary School PTA – Used Book Sale**  
**Greenbelt Nursery School – "Greenbelt is Great" T-Shirts, Easel Painting, Lollipop Pull**  
**Greenbelt Youth Baseball – Bingo**  
**Greenbelt Police Department – Information**  
**Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Democratic Club: Information**

Rides by Rosedale Attractions. Booths constructed and wired by Greenbelt Public Works Department.

## Information Day: Saturday 10am-4pm

- Atomy Company
- Beltway Montessori Children's House
- Catholic Community of Greenbelt
- ChasenBoscolo Injury Lawyers
- Devine Interventions LLC
- District 36 Toastmasters
- Forest Preserve Advisory Board
- GHI Woodlands Committee • GIVES
- Greenbelt Access TV
- Greenbelt Alliance for Reproductive Freedom
- Greenbelt Baptist Church
- Greenbelt City Council
- Greenbelt Community Church
- Greenbelt Community Orchestra
- Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket & Pharmacy
- Greenbelt Green Team • Greenbelt News Review
- Greenbelt Reparations Committee
- Greenbelt Rotary Club
- Holy Cross Lutheran Church
- Holy Redeemer School
- Kids Dental Center/Greenway Dental Group
- Kitchen Saver • Maryland 529
- Maryland Coalition for Responsible Transit
- Maryland Forward Party • MD Coalition of UU the Vote and UU Legislative Ministries,
- Melanie Cantwell, Realtor
- Moms Demand Action
- NARHAMS Model Rocketry Club
- Passanante's Home Food Services
- Pet Supplies Plus
- PGCARES - Prince George's Amateur Radio Emergency Services
- Playtime Project • Power HRG
- Prince George's Community College
- Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union
- Prince George's County Maryland Right to Life
- Prince George's Philharmonic
- QCI Behavioral Health
- Royal Diamond Athletics
- Silver Oaks Cooperative School
- St. Columba's Scottish Country Dance
- TrainACE
- United Poultry Concerns
- Venturing Crew 746
- Vote Forward

(List as of 8/6/24)

## Rising Stars Performance Showcase

Performers will have the chance to display their talent. Come cheer on their performance! Emcee Michael Cooney.



Stage, Sunday, September 1, 4:30-7:30pm

## The Greenbelt Labor Day Festival offers a unique opportunity for local residents to display their talents and creativity.

Art and photos will be displayed in the Community Center Gym.

## Art & Photo Show Schedule

**Saturday, August 31**  
**1-6pm**

Community Center Gym  
 Show open (visitors can vote for Community Favorites)

**Sunday, September 1**  
**1-6pm**

Community Center Gym  
 Show open (visitors can vote for Community Favorites)

**Monday, September 2**  
**Noon-4pm**

Community Center Gym  
 Show open

**Monday, September 2**  
**Noon**

Festival stage  
 Awards presented

**Monday, September 2**  
**4pm**

Community Center Gym  
 Pick up photos/artwork (show organizers not responsible for unclaimed artwork/photos)

For full information and the digital entry form, visit [www.greenbeltlaborday.com](http://www.greenbeltlaborday.com)



## New Music for 2024:



Honky Tonk Cassanovas: Sunday, 8-11pm



The Relics: Saturday, 3:30-5pm



Kieran Lally: Monday, 1:30-2:30pm

## Retro Town Fair

Residents bring their flowers, vegetables, fruits, baked goods, canned goods, and needlework to be displayed and judged by a panel of experts.

Greenbelt Museum House,  
 10-B Crescent Rd: Sunday,  
 1-4pm; entries accepted 10-11:30am.



# Monday, Sept. 2

## 10am- Noon 68th ANNUAL GREENBELT LABOR DAY PARADE

The parade will entertain you with a variety of groups, demonstrating our community spirit and accentuating our city's diverse cultural background. The Greenbelt Police Department Color Guard will lead off the parade, which will include a pipe and drum corps, numerous local community groups and businesses, fire trucks and local politicians. The Grand Marshal is Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen. Master of Ceremonies will be Dave Zahren, host of "It's Academic." Parade Route: Down Crescent Rd. from Greenhill to Southway. Parade is marshaled by members of the Prince George's County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (PG-ARES) with assistance from the Eleanor Roosevelt High School National Honor Society.

## 11am- 6pm CARNIVAL AND BOOTHS

Midway. Rides by Rosedale Attractions. Games, food, sale, and information booths presented by Greenbelt organizations. Booths constructed and wired by Greenbelt Public Works Department. Ride tickets sold by volunteers from the Eleanor Roosevelt High School National Honor Society. No charge for entertainment, shows, or events unless noted.

## 11am- 6pm BINGO

Community Center Lawn. Head for the picnic tables in front of the Community Center for BINGO. Sponsored by Greenbelt Youth Baseball. Non-perishable food donations will be collected to support St. Hugh's food pantry.

## Noon- 2pm LUNCHEON ON THE LAWN

Greenbelt Community Church, Corner of Hillside and Crescent Rd. After parade. Barbeque sandwich or hot dog, baked beans, slaw, chips, drink and dessert for one reasonable price.

## 12-2pm HISTORIC HOUSE TOURS

Museum House, 10B Crescent Road. Come by for a short tour of the Museum house. Tours offered on the half hour during open hours. See how a typical Greenbelt family would have lived in the late 30s to the early 50s.

## Noon- 1pm AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Stage. Presentation of awards for the Art Show, Photo Show, Best Entry in each parade category and Best in Parade.

## Noon- 3pm COMMUNITY PAINTING PROJECT

Next to Greenbelt Elementary PTA Book Sale. Community members of all ages are invited to make your mark on canvas while celebrating the 70th annual Greenbelt Labor Day Festival. Non-washable, acrylic paints will be used; please wear your painting clothes. Adult-sized aprons available.

## Noon- 4pm ART SHOW AND PHOTO SHOW

Community Center Gym - View entries submitted by local artist and photographers. Artists and photographers: pick up artwork and photos at 4pm.

## Noon- 6pm CRAFT FAIR

Roosevelt Center. Visit with local artists as they display and sell their handmade crafts.

## 1:30- 2:30pm KIERAN LALLY

Stage. Kieran Lally is from Greenbelt and has always wanted to play at the Labor Day Festival. A St. Hugh's School alum, this solo musician sings and plays acoustic guitar. He has been playing professionally since 2002 and has played 3,172 shows. Kieran teaches Special Education and Special Education music for Howard County schools, and coaches allied sports. Kieran has won four Rams Head Rammie Awards. When not on stage, he enjoys a sub from Joe's.

## 3-6pm FAST EDDIE AND THE SLOWPOKES

Stage. Fast Eddie and the Slowpokes' playlist is inspired by classic blues material from Chicago to West Coast Swing, Motown to Muscle Shoals, and all the rock 'n' roll in between. Their goal is to get you up on your feet, and they never miss their target!  
*Sponsored by Choice Clinical Services*

## 3-7pm GREENBELT AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY PICNIC

Greenbelt American Legion. After enjoying Labor Day Festival activities in Roosevelt Center, have fun at the American Legion Labor Day Family Picnic. Fun events for children and adults.

## Special Thanks To:

City of Greenbelt  
Greenbelt Police Department  
Greenbelt Public Works  
Greenbelt Recreation  
College Park Arts Exchange

The Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee would like to give a special thank-you to:

• Eleanor Roosevelt High School National Honor Society members who volunteer their time each year. We couldn't do it without you!



# Friday, Aug. 30

All events will take place in the Roosevelt Center parking lots unless otherwise noted. No advance registration is required unless stated. No alcoholic beverages will be sold at the Festival. City ordinances prohibit the consumption of alcoholic beverages in city parks, buildings and the Festival area.

In case of heavy rain, stage events and booth activities may be limited. Carnival rides may close without refunds.

For Festival information and a schedule, check the Festival Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/greenbeltlaborday> or see [greenbeltlaborday.com](http://greenbeltlaborday.com).

This schedule is subject to change without notice. Questions? Call visit the website at [greenbeltlaborday.com](http://greenbeltlaborday.com) or visit the Information Booth on the grounds.

## 6-10pm CARNIVAL MIDWAY OPENS

Midway. Rides by Rosedale Attractions. Ride tickets sold by volunteers from the Eleanor Roosevelt High School National Honor Society. No charge for entertainment, shows or events unless noted.

## 6-10pm BOOTHS

Games, food, sale, and information booths presented by Greenbelt organizations. Booths constructed and wired by Greenbelt Public Works Department.

## 6pm ADULT TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Youth Center.  
*Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## 6-10pm COMMUNITY PAINTING PROJECT

Next to Greenbelt Elementary PTA Book Sale. Community members of all ages are invited to make your mark on canvas while celebrating the 70th annual Greenbelt Labor Day Festival. Non-washable, acrylic paints will be used; please wear your painting clothes. Adult-sized aprons available.

## 6-10pm BINGO

Community Center Lawn. Head for the picnic tables in front of the Community Center for BINGO. Sponsored by Greenbelt Youth Baseball. Food donations will be collected to support St. Hugh's food pantry.

## 6:30- 7:15pm OPENING CEREMONIES

Stage. Police and color guard. Introduction of dignitaries. Presentation of Outstanding Citizen Award, the major civic event in Greenbelt each year, honoring all the outstanding citizens who make Greenbelt great. Sign language interpreter on stage. National anthem sung by Melissa Sites.

## 7:15pm 2024 OUTSTANDING CITIZEN RECEPTION

Municipal Building, Council Meeting Room. Public is invited.

## 8-11pm JOHNNY SEATON

If you love Elvis, Tom Jones, Johnny Cash, and American Rock and Roll, you won't want to miss the kick off for the Labor Day Festival weekend with the one and only Johnny Seaton and his band Bad Behavior. Johnny has been performing for decades and has traveled the world starring in popular Broadway productions such as "Elvis An American Musical," "Elvis Mania," and "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" with Donny Osmond. Come experience the high energy performance of Johnny Seaton.  
*Sponsored by Trusted and Innovative Wellness Clinic*

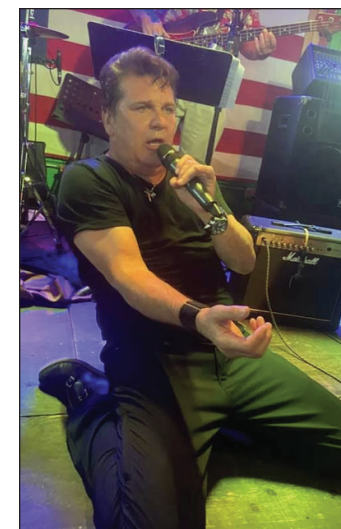
## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle at the Labor Day Festival

Please help green the Labor Day Festival!

The City of Greenbelt's Green Team will be on hand Saturday for Information Day.

Throughout the Festival grounds you'll find trash and recycling bins paired side by side with instructional decals.

Please bring your reusable water bottles to decrease plastic waste. You can fill them in restaurants and other places including the Municipal Building and Aquatic Center, whether or not they have the TapIt decal or water bottle flyer in store windows.



Johnny Seaton

Visit [greenbeltlaborday.com](http://greenbeltlaborday.com) for the latest Festival information:



# Saturday, Aug. 31

## 8-10am CELEBRATION OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ON GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL

New Deal Cafe. As part of the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival's 70th celebration, help honor the history of distinguished service by past members of Greenbelt City Council, a look all the way back to 1937. At this breakfast reception, we will honor their long-serving and ground-breaking service. *Sponsored by Greenbelt City Council*

## 9am GREENBELT MUSEUM EXHIBITION

-5pm Community Center, Room 110. "The Knowing Hands That Carve This Stone: The New Deal Art of Lenore Thomas Straus."

## 9-11am BRICKS AND BLOCKS WALKING TOUR

10-B Crescent Rd. This tour will highlight historic Greenbelt's domestic architecture, the "brick and block" homes that make up the majority of the original planned community. Your guide will show you how to "read" the brick and block homes and the tour will feature spots of historic interest that have not been featured on previous walking tours. The "Bricks and Blocks" Tour leaves from the Greenbelt Museum and takes approximately 2 hours, including the Greenbelt Museum's orientation film. Space is limited and you must pre-register. Visit [greenbeltmuseum.org/laborday2019](http://greenbeltmuseum.org/laborday2019) for complete info and registration link.

## 9:30- CHILDREN AND TEEN PET SHOW

10:30am Community Center Lawn. All kinds, types, sizes of pets. Children and teens bring your pet to register at 9:30am. Judging and awards at 10am. Greenbelt's greatest pets get some well-deserved attention. Rain or Shine!  
*Sponsored by Girl Scout Troop #23007 of Greenbelt*

## 10am INFORMATION DAY & COMMUNITY EXHIBITS

-4pm Roosevelt Center. Visit the information and display tables set up by local groups and learn about your community!

## 10am DIAPER DERBY FOR CRAWLERS AND TODDLERS (3 YEARS AND OLDER)

Braden Field. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## 10:30am BINGO

-10pm Community Center Lawn. See entry for Friday.

## 10:30am BOOTHS

-10pm Midway. See entry for Friday.

## 10:45am BALLOON WADDLE RACE (ALL AGES)

Braden Field. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## 11am WATER BALLOON TOSS (ALL AGES)

Braden Field. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*



The NoWhere Men

## 11am- CARNIVAL

10pm Midway. Rides by Rosedale Attractions. See entry for Friday.

## 11:30am PIE EATING CONTEST (ALL AGES)

Braden Field. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## Noon- SING-ALONG SUPER HEROES, PRINCESSES & TAYLOR

3pm Take a break from riding the rides to stop by the stage to meet tribute characters Captain America and Superman, noon-1pm. Stay to meet and sing along with Anna and Elsa from 1-2pm. Singing "Do you want to build a snowman" might cool you off! Next is the Taylor Tribute!! Wear your finest Taylor costume or come as you are, sing along with our tribute Taylor!! "It's a love story" from 2-3pm. There will be a limited number of friendship bracelets handed out during this time, so don't miss out! Friendship bracelets provided by [www.etsy.com/shop/madebybooboo](http://www.etsy.com/shop/madebybooboo). *Sponsored by National Cooperative Bank*

## Noon- COMMUNITY PAINTING PROJECT



8pm Next to PTA Book Sale. See entry for Friday.

## 1pm PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT (ALL AGES)

Youth Center. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## 1-6pm ART SHOW AND COMMUNITY PHOTO SHOW

Community Center Gym. View entries submitted by local artist and photographers. Vote for Community Favorites.

## 2pm 2-BALL TOURNAMENT (16 YEARS AND OLDER)

Youth Center Gym. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## 3:30pm 3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT (AGES 13-17)

Youth Center Gym. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## 3:30pm THE RELICS

-5pm Stage. The Relics play an exciting upbeat rock and soul mix that everyone loves. Dance and sing along to your favorite hits featuring a driving rhythm section, outstanding lead vocals with deep rich harmonies, and just the right amount of exciting instrumentals. Dust off your boogie shoes, warm up your vocal cords, and get ready to party with the Relics. Warning: The Relics create high levels of excitement in adults of all ages!

## 5:30- GRANNY AND THE BOYS

7:30pm Stage. Led by the exquisite 92-year-old Alice "Granny" Donahue, this band has packed in delirious crowds, moved everyone's feet, and always guaranteed a great time. Alice is a Greenbelt local and resides in GHL..

## 8-11pm THE NOWHERE MEN

Stage. Like to dance? Love that Motown sound, the great horn bands of the '60s and '70s and hits from artists like Earth, Wind & Fire; The Four Tops; Chicago; Stevie Wonder; The Temptations; Blood Sweat and Tears; Tower of Power and much more: Then you will love The Nowhere Men.

*Sponsored by Lafayette Federal Credit Union*

# Sunday, Sept. 1

## 9- "TOUR DE GREENBELT" BIKE RIDE

10:45am Join Mayor Emmett Jordan, Mayor Pro Tem Kristen Weaver, Councilmember Danielle McKinney, and Jeff and Laurie Lemieux from Proteus Bicycles on a bike ride around Greenbelt. The ride will take place in two stages, both starting at the New Deal Cafe. The first stage will leave at 9am and go to Greenbelt Station neighborhood in Greenbelt West. The second stage will leave at approximately 10am and go to Schrom Hills Park. NOTE: this is not a supported ride and may not be suitable for families with very young children.

## 10am EGG SPOON RACE (ALL AGES)

Braden Field. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## 10:15am SACK RACE (ALL AGES)

Braden Field. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## 10:30am T-BALL (ALL AGES)

Braden Field. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## 11am- CRAFT FAIR

7pm Roosevelt Center. Visit with local artists as they display and sell their handmade crafts.

## 11am- KATY GAUGHAN DRUMMING FOR WELLNESS

noon Stage. Family-friendly community drum circle. All ages. No experience is necessary. Drums will be provided for participants, although you are welcome to bring your own!



## 11:30am WATER RELAY (ALL AGES)

Braden Field. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## Noon- COMMUNITY PAINTING PROJECT

8pm Next to PTA Book Sale. See entry for Friday.

## Noon- CARNIVAL AND BOOTHS

10pm See Carnival Midway entries for Friday and Saturday.

## Noon BINGO

-10pm Community Center Lawn. See entry for Friday.

## Noon- GREENBELT HONK! SITUATION

1:30pm Stage. Greenbelt Honk! Situation is Greenbelt's community street band in rainbow tie dyes and causing a fun, high-energy scene wherever they go. Bringing together brass and drums players of all ability levels and experience, they play New Orleans standards, pop, and rock favorites. Play music with us, dance with us, BE part of the Situation! If you're not smiling after they start playing, you may need to see if you still have a mouth!

## 1pm CHILDREN'S BINGO

Youth Center. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## 1pm CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT (12 YEARS AND OLDER)

Braden Field. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## 1-4pm SEND A MESSAGE TO...

Community engagement project, next to the stage. Write your messages to the Universe, the Earth, the United States, Maryland, Greenbelt and the Festival. *Supported by College Park Arts Exchange.*

## 1-4pm RETRO TOWN FAIR

Museum House, 10B Crescent Road. Our Retro Town Fair is much like those the earliest Greenbelters enjoyed starting in 1939. Ribbons will be awarded for the best entries in a number of categories, including flowers, vegetables, baked goods, canned goods, and needlework/sewing. Entries accepted 10-11:30am. Winners on display 1-4pm. All items must be picked up between 4-5pm. All of the information to enter is on our entry form at [greenbeltmuseum.org](http://greenbeltmuseum.org).

## 1-5pm HISTORIC HOUSE TOURS

Museum House, 10B Crescent Road. Come by for a short tour of the Museum house. Tours offered on the half hour during open hours. See how a typical Greenbelt family would have lived in the late 30s to the early 50s.

## 1-6pm ART SHOW AND PHOTO SHOW

Community Center Gym. View entries submitted by local artists and photographers. Vote for Community Favorites.

## 2-4pm DOWNTOWN TUMBAO

Stage. Forged in Mexico City and now transplanted to Baltimore, Downtown Tumbao's sound is one of borderlands that merge Afro-Caribbean beats spanning Latin American styles and rhythms from Waltz Peruano to Guaracha, Samba Canção to Latin  
*Sponsored by Greenbelt Cinema*

## 2pm HOTSHOT (12 YEARS AND UNDER)

Youth Center. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## 2pm YOUTH TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT (17 YEARS AND UNDER)

Youth Center. *Sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation*

## 4:30- RISING STARS PERFORMANCE SHOWCASE

7:30pm Stage. Performers will have the chance to display their talent. Come cheer on their performance.

## 6pm MEMORIAL GATHERING

Stage (during a break for Rising Stars). Come to honor those friends and relatives who have passed. Please feel free to bring flowers to lay on the hill during the memorial service.

## 8-11pm HONKY TONK CASSANOVAS

Stage. Honky Tonk Casanovas play an entertaining mix of country, western swing, California surf and southern soul music! Based out of the MD/VA/Washington DC area, the Casanovas's feature the rich vocals, honky tonk guitar, the beautiful sounds of pedal steel guitar, and the distinguished keyboards of a Maryland Entertainment Hall of Fame member.

*Sponsored by Greenbelt Service Center/Sunoco*



Downtown Tumbao: Sunday, 2-4pm

# Council Addresses Wide Agenda

by Maurice Crawford

The Greenbelt City Council met on Monday, August 12 to cover a multitude of issues including state and county legislation, speed cameras, fire and EMS coverage, Greenbelt Police Department initiatives, online bill pay for residents, and equipment and file digitization purchases. Council began by commending Greenbelt police officers for their response to the Schrom Hills Park shooting in April 2024. (See separate story, page 1.)

### Legislative Summary

Darrell Carrington of Carrington and Associates provided an overview of the 2024 Maryland legislative session and implications for next year. (The firm advises the city on county and state legislation.) Highlighted legislation included a law imposing higher fines for street racing and exhibition driving, a bill allowing civilians to review speed camera data and a rent stabilization bill for Prince George’s County. He noted that next year the state is facing a structural budget deficit while simultaneously the state and counties will begin implementing the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future to improve student performance and education quality; thus there may be increases in fees or taxes.

Mayor Emmett Jordan asked about a county bill that would give municipalities more authority in terms of planning and zoning efforts. Carrington felt that this bill (HB1059) is unlikely to move forward because there is no appetite on the county council to give this authority to municipalities.

### School Zone Camera Law

In the past Maryland legislative session bill HB364 passed, which permits the county to place cameras on stop signs near schools. The bill allows “stop sign monitoring systems on state and local highways situated within school zones” and is designed to promote safety by preventing drivers from ignoring stop signs in school zones. The bill requires the county council to pass enabling legislation to guide establishment of these systems, which Prince George’s County Council is expected to take up next month and approve.

Councilmember Jenni Pompei has been tracking the law and asked where the cameras would be, how many would be allowed and if the county would provide funds for the system. Since the county council has yet to write the enabling legislation, these technical details remain to be clarified.

Jordan suggested writing a letter of support to the county council regarding this upcoming legislation, and a motion passed to do so.

### Fire and EMS

City Manager Josué Salmerón reported that the city continues to seek a legal and administrative resolution to the county fire department’s removal of career firefighters from Greenbelt. Legal counsel has filed an amended complaint and an opposition to the county’s motion to dismiss the suit filed by Greenbelt and other municipalities.

Jordan wanted to assure the public “that a huge amount of work is going on behind the scenes to try and make sure that Engine Company 35 is staffed” and that there is adequate fire

and EMS protection for the community.

Pompi added that they have not received raw data from the county fire department regarding this decision nor have they received the report that actually determined how the county was going to reallocate staff.

### Online Bill Pay, Fees

The city is ready to launch an online bill pay system that would allow Greenbelt residents to access, schedule and securely pay their bills online. However, when paying with a credit card or other electronic payment system there is generally a fee associated with the payment. The question posed to council was whether the city should cover those fees or should the fees be covered by the residents paying the bills. The city currently pays transaction fees on behalf of Greenbelt residents when they participate in other city-sponsored programs in the recreation, code enforcement and police departments.

This led to a discussion among council about what the costs for this would be in the future (the total cost for the first year could be up to \$50,000). Councilmember Rodney Roberts felt that it is probably not appropriate for the city to cover these fees. Councilmember Amy Knesel pointed out that this cost would never go away and that consumers are already accustomed to paying such fees. She wanted to make sure that residents can still pay via check without a fee and City Treasurer Bertha Gaymon affirmed that they can do so.

Councilmembers agreed that the online bill pay system should move forward with residents covering their own credit card fees.

### License Plate Readers

Police Chief Richard Bowers provided an update on the License Plate Reader (LPR) Camera System and a draft policy for the

system, which will be reviewed by the Public Safety Advisory Committee. This system is designed to record license plates to identify stolen vehicles, locate suspects and track vehicles associated with criminal activity. The plan is to place eight cameras along roads in the city. Bowers provided a map showing tentative locations. To minimize costs, some cameras may be mounted on PEPCO poles. There will be a meeting with the contractor in September to begin planning the installation.

Jordan and Councilmember Kristen Weaver posed questions regarding camera locations. Bowers said the locations are limited by cost but that in the future cameras could be moved.

Weaver wanted to ensure good communication about this system with the public, especially in terms of data retention and who has access to the data. Bowers responded that the department is planning sessions to meet with residents.

The draft policy states that data collected by the system will be used only for law enforcement purposes and access to the data would be restricted to authorized personnel. Historical data would not be retained by the city. After 24 hours, locally stored LPR data would be deleted and become the property of the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center.

### Body Cameras Contract

Staff recommended that the city council authorize the city manager to execute a five-year contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc., for body-worn cameras, digital evidence management, less-than-lethal weapons and associated training, at a total cost of \$737,151.90. The current contract with Axon expires at the end of the year.

See COUNCIL, page 9

# Registration Remains Open For Curbside Composting

by Tom Taylor

Registration remains open for Greenbelt households to receive free curbside food scrap collection for 12 months in a program sponsored by the City of Greenbelt.

Signup for the program is on a first-come, first-served basis. Residents should register on the Compost Crew website at this link – [customers.compostcrew.com/subscribe](https://customers.compostcrew.com/subscribe) – or by scanning the QR code with this article.

The program is open to all Greenbelt residents, who may join individually or in combination with close-by neighbors to help fill the seven-gallon bin for weekly pickup. After a \$20 one-time charge to purchase the collection bin, pickup service for 12 months is free. New households will join the 200 that started in February.

Compost Crew, a locally owned food-scrap recycling business, will pick up food scraps weekly and deliver them to their compost processing facility, named Compost Outpost, at Trinity Assembly of God Church on Good Luck Road. High-quality compost will be returned to Greenbelt for use as a soil-improving additive in community gardens and public spaces. Composting will reduce food waste



Sign up for the composting program using this QR code or at [customers.compostcrew.com/subscribe](https://customers.compostcrew.com/subscribe).

going to the landfill and lower greenhouse gas emissions coming from the landfill.

The program is a partnership of Greenbelt, Compost Crew and Trinity Assembly of God, with funding through a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. For any questions, email Luisa Robles, City of Greenbelt sustainability coordinator, at [lrobles@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:lrobles@greenbeltmd.gov).





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**Memorial Games and Blackout Games**

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My Point of View

How Does Old Greenbelt Figure In the Childless Cat Lady Stakes?

by Felinella Contravance



PHOTO BY MATTHEW NEUS

A Greenbelt resident has proudly displayed a Cat People for Harris/Walz sign in their front yard on Lakeside Drive.

Recent political rhetoric has disparaged a group of people who are described by a certain political candidate as “childless cat ladies.” The question before us is whether the speaker realized that Greenbelt is a cat lady hot spot and how that might affect the vote.

A childless cat lady is perhaps defined as an older female who has zero children (by choice or chance) and one or more cats (or who supports roving cats). Indeed, a number of the News Review’s members might reasonably be tagged as cat ladies – and are proud of it.

The housing epicenter of Greenbelt, the cooperative known as GHI, is a particularly suitable habitat for such persons. Cats have immediate outside access (for those running free), the houses are relatively small and affordable (perfect for a woman and her cat) and the monthly co-op fee takes care of most maintenance so

a resident male is of little obvious value. It is a place where a woman and her cat can flourish.

Greenbelt is likely, therefore, to be disproportionately populated with cat ladies – and here is the flaw for the remark’s propagator – they have the time to vote (as they are not constantly appeasing husbands and children). Frankly, cat ladies are people any politician with half a brain should take seriously, avoid offending and, if possible, recruit to their campaigns.

Whether cat ladies are intrinsically more inclined to vote Republican or Democratic is unknown but since their sympathies would be clearly with the under-cat, it seems likely that the offending remark may move the overall vote leftward for all but the most intransigent.

A man who does not respect cat ladies should not hold the reins of power.

Transportation Plans, More Jobs: Greenbelt Prepares for the FBI

by Laura Charleston and Madi Eades

The FBI headquarters relocation promises the community increased public transportation and connectivity through extended ramps, increased run times for Metrorail’s Green Line and MARC trains, and the addition of more buses. It will bring jobs, too, but with them traffic and congestion, some fear.

**The Greenbelt Metro**

The northern Prince George’s County portion of Metro’s Green Line opened in December 1993 and connected West Hyattsville, Prince George’s Plaza, University of Maryland-College Park and Greenbelt stations to the D.C. Green Line stations and the other Metro lines. According to data from the U.S. Census Bureau, of the almost 25,000 people who reside in Greenbelt, nearly 11 percent commute to work using public transportation.

In determining that the Greenbelt site would be the most advantageous for the new FBI headquarters, the GSA found its proximity to the Greenbelt Metro Station to be crucial.

“People who come to work here in Greenbelt [at the] FBI, they will be able to take the Metro train, get off the train and walk directly to the site,” said Mayor Emmett Jordan. “It’s a fantastic walkable site; it’s also shovel-ready.”

The Greenbelt site will require the construction of the missing northbound access from the Capital Beltway to both the Metro station and the FBI site. Currently, the Greenbelt Metro Station has an entrance and exit ramp for commuters coming from the north, leaving the station inaccessible from the south side. Extending ramps to the Beltway is part of the plan when construction begins for the new headquarters, stated Jordan.

“That’s going to make Greenbelt Station a bit more accessible off the highway,” said City Manager Josué Salmerón, speaking of the newest neighborhood in Greenbelt. In addition, Salmerón said the plan includes “an expansion of the Greenbelt Station Parkway [to connect] Greenbelt Road to the Metro station.”

The extension of Greenbelt Station Parkway is intended to improve accessibility for nearby Greenbelt residents and those who will be working at the FBI headquarters.

“The folks have now been living in [Greenbelt Station], in this beautiful neighborhood, for quite some time,” said Jordan. “I think it’s going to be a shock to them [when] the road from the Beltway is finally completed and extends all the way up to Greenbelt Road.”

**Residents’ Concerns**

Expansions may come with drawbacks, however. Specifically, traffic congestion.

“We already have incredibly high traffic volume through Greenbelt,” said Marion Holland, a resident of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. She added that with 7,500 FBI employees commuting to and from work daily, the traffic will only get worse.

“Other roads would have to be reconfigured, widened and changed in various ways, or else we’re going to see a lot heavier traffic,” said Stephen Holland, a former member of the Transit Riders United group for Greenbelt.

Traffic is a real concern among city officials and residents. Jordan notes that the city will do what it can to alleviate the increased traffic congestion. The Green Line and the MARC train will likely run more often, and there will be more buses.

**Job Creation**

Two of GSA’s criteria for deciding the headquarters relocation were “advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities through the federal government” and “strengthening the vitality and livability of the communities in which federal facilities are located.”

According to the site selection decision summary provided by GSA, Greenbelt allows for the greatest opportunity for economic development within historically underserved communities. The GSA reported that of the proposed sites, Fairfax County in Northern Virginia benefitted from \$377 billion of federal spending between 2012 and 2023, compared to Prince George’s County’s \$100 billion.

“This project is an important step toward undoing some of that disregard or lack of investment in our county,” said Salmerón.


“I think it’s going to bring much-needed money to the area,” said Didi Peck, longtime Greenbelt community member and vice president of the Greenbriar Condominiums HOA.

According to information provided by Prince George’s County Executive Angela Alsobrooks regarding the economic impact of the relocation, the new headquarters will bring a minimum of 7,500 jobs directly to the FBI and nearly 2,000 jobs indirectly to support the FBI’s presence.

“It’s going to be all kinds of different jobs,” said Jordan. “From service workers to FBI agents, technology workers, administrative jobs.”

The new site for the headquarters will also include mixed-use development, which includes retail, commercial, residential and

See FBI, page 11




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COUNCIL continued from page 7

Deputy Police Chief Tim White reported that storage costs for managing digital evidence have increased since 2019 when the current contract began. The new contract includes upgrades to Taser 10 technology and virtual reality training using Oculus headsets.

Roberts asked about a device that wraps around the legs and was wondering if the department uses it because it seems safer compared to a Taser. White said that it is called a bolo and he hopes to get a test model for evaluation. The contract cost for Year 1 is \$136,774.58, which has been allocated in the approved Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 budget. Council voted to allow the city manager to execute the contract for the first year.

K-9 Engine Rebuild

Vehicle 607, a 2018 Chevy Tahoe assigned to the K-9 unit, needs engine repairs at a cost of \$16,396. When a check engine light repeatedly appeared, the vehicle was sent to Sport Chevrolet in Silver Spring which found that it needed extensive repairs.

Roberts wondered how one goes from a check engine light to an engine rebuild. He did not feel that this was a good deal for the public and objected to approving the funds. Council decided to table the issue to another meeting and get further input from Assistant Director of Public Works Brian Kim.

DEI and Climate Change

The Greenbelt Advisory Committee for Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES) sent a time-sensitive request asking council to sign a letter opposing efforts to add language to FY 2025 federal appropriation bills that would prevent funding of DEI and climate resilience efforts.

Greenbelt currently has efforts in these areas such as electric vehicle acquisition and infrastructure, carbon reduction goals and the DEI audit. Such language may limit the city's ability to acquire federal funds to support future projects in these areas. Weaver asked her colleagues to sign a letter opposing language by members of the U.S. House of Representatives that would restrict funds for DEI and addressing climate change. Council agreed.

File Digitization Project

Council voted to allow Salmerón to enter into a contract with e-ARC to provide file collection, file scanning and data integration for files in the Municipal Building, primarily in the administration and finance departments. This work, in conjunction with revision of the city's records retention policy, will eliminate 150 file boxes and allow better use of space in the city manager and finance offices. Salmerón said this is part of the overall modernization strategy to bring the city into the digital era. The proposed contractor e-ARC completed a test box and Salmerón said he was happy with the result. The contract is for \$64,172 and the

project will be completed by the end of 2024 or early 2025.

Jordan wanted to know how the files were being tagged and made accessible. Salmerón said the city instituted a Dewey Decimal System years ago. However, with optical character recognition software the file is tagged and the city can do further tagging via Microsoft SharePoint (the information sharing system). Greenbelt is moving toward the Microsoft 365 platform (which includes SharePoint) for storing data in the cloud.

Pompi wanted to know if the contractor would destroy the paper records. Salmerón responded that the records would eventually be destroyed but the city's records retention policy is currently being updated. As of now the contractors are holding the paper records, which will either be destroyed according to the city retention policy, sent to the Maryland State Archives or returned to the city.

Web Services

Council approved funds to renew the contract with Granicus Web Services for FY 2025 at a cost of \$42,214.39. Granicus

support includes publishing city council materials for public on-line access. This amount will be prorated and partially refunded when the city cancels the contract after migrating to a new website platform, if staff gives Granicus a 30-day cancellation notice. The migration to a new platform is expected to take approximately six to eight months.

Purchase Authority

Council will review any purchase of goods or services costing over \$10,000. Each year the city does business with vendors below this limit but over the course of the fiscal year may need to go above the limit. Therefore, a resolution was introduced that would authorize the purchases of goods and services from a known set of vendors where the cost usually exceeds \$10,000 over the fiscal year. Gaymon and her staff provided lists to council that identified the vendors the city may use in 2025, including new vendors.

Jordan pointed out that this is a first reading and asked councilmembers to review the lists before the question comes up again in September.

POLICE continued from page 1

Officer Jean-Paul Dang, Officer Oscar Rodas Flores, Corporal Konetta Brown, Corporal Yomayra Rodriguez, Sergeant Charles Wooten, Officer First Class Daniel Sandoval and Lt. Michael Parsley.

Recipients of Class One commendations for their outstanding performance and dedication to duty were: Officer Tyler Fahy, Officer Amy Sosa, Officer Richard Millien Rondon, Master Police Officer Rakibur Rahman, Master Police Officer Dylan Davis and Communications Supervisor Alicia Williams.

The Silver Star, the second

highest award given by the department, is awarded to those who have exhibited service to the department and the citizens of Greenbelt in which valor, courage, intelligence and bravery are shown and demonstrated above what is normally demanded and expected of dedicated police officers. These awardees were: Officer Aidan Sims, Officer Christopher Shelby, Police Officer First Class Michael Watkins, Master Police Officer Michael Thomas, Corporal James Bowne, Sergeant Irelisse Fernandez, Captain Jermaine Gulledge and Major Timothy White.

Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred August 12-19, 2024. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an enquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email [pd@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:pd@greenbeltmd.gov). Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Greenbelt Police Department reported four domestic incidents, one involving an arrest; one death; and one sexual assault.

Armed Robbery/

Attempted Carjacking

On August 13 near 9230 Springhill Lane, a male jumped into the victim's vehicle and robbed her. The victim broke free and ran, and the suspect fled.

Disorderly

On August 15 near 7475 Greenbelt Road, an intoxicated man was arrested for trespassing, indecent exposure and causing a public disturbance.

On August 17 near 6002 Greenbelt Road, a customer created a disturbance and refused to pay after having her hair done.

Shoplifting

On August 12 near 7595 Greenbelt Road, a suspect placed several items in a wagon and left the store without paying.

On August 15 near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a customer concealed items in a bag before running out the exit without paying.

Suspicious Auto

On August 12 near Greenbelt Road at Kenilworth Avenue, officers observed a disabled vehicle in the roadway, unoccupied and with hazard lights on. A loaded handgun was located inside, which was taken for safe-

keeping. The vehicle's tag came back suspended; the vehicle was impounded.

Vehicle Crimes  
Stolen Vehicles

On August 12 near 9326 Edmonston Road, a victim reported that her white Mercedes GLA (Md. 1FH7397) had been stolen from the parking lot; near 9000 Breezewood Terrace, a victim reported that his white Ford Econoline (Md. 3FP7884) had been stolen from the side of the road; and near 5993 Springhill Terrace, a victim reported that her brother's vehicle had been stolen, a 2002 Honda CRV bearing Md. tag 836Z20.

On August 13 near 5991 Cherrywood Terrace, a victim reported that her blue 2021 Honda Accord (Md. 9ET7042) was stolen.

On August 17 near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a victim reported that her 2023 Toyota Corolla (Md. 5FL9537) was stolen from a parking lot.

Theft from Auto

On August 13 near 5993 Springhill Drive, the tag was stolen from the victim's vehicle.

On August 15 near 155 Westway, the victim's tag was stolen from her vehicle, and near 6992 Hanover Parkway, a victim's vehicle was towed because the tags had been stolen from the vehicle.



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-----

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Classroom training begins in September for 12 weeks, two days per week, at the College Park campus, with site visits to the state complex in Annapolis.

The volunteer assignment will be for a minimum of two days per week, starting in Jan. 2025, in the Annapolis offices of various senators and delegates. For more information or for an application, contact Wesley Queen at [wqueen@umd.edu](mailto:wqueen@umd.edu) or call (301)-405-2529.

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**ZELLE:** The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at [zellepay.com](http://zellepay.com). Customers should direct their payments to [business@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:business@greenbeltnewsreview.com).

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**#1 in Sales for Greenbelt from 2017-2023**



# Spotted in Greenbelt



A green heron at Buddy Attick Park

PHOTO BY KEN LOO



A frog sits on the fence outside the baby pool at the Aquatic & Fitness Center.

PHOTO BY THERESA & MADELINE HENDERSON



Momma groundhog eats a peach.

PHOTO BY GREG FISANICH

## FBI continued from page 8

office space, said Salmerón.

With restaurants and new service industries surrounding the headquarters site, Greenbelt residents will have more business and economic opportunities closer to home, he added.

Some community members, like Marion Holland, question the impact of restaurants and other services coming to Greenbelt.

“They need to bring in jobs where people can come in on an entry-level and progress through to a livable wage,” said Holland. “Restaurants and retail isn’t going to do it.”

Recently, the Greenbelt community witnessed a town-favorite restaurant, Chevy’s, close, she added. “Most of these places can’t keep employees as it is because of the fact that they don’t pay a livable wage,” said Holland. For Holland, more restaurants and service jobs will never last in the Greenbelt community.

However, some community members hope the decision to locate the headquarters in Greenbelt will attract people to the area.

“I think it’s gonna be a whole boost to the area,” said Peck. “I’d like to see as many people that are actually working here, choose to live in Greenbelt.”

The FBI headquarters and mixed-use development center will bring opportunities for restaurant and retail jobs and transform the economy, said Jordan.

“It’s an investment in Prince George’s County, and the federal government is committed to doing that,” he added.

*Laura Charleston and Madi Eades are University of Maryland students at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism writing for the News Review.*

### Call for Sports News

Do you have Greenbelt sports news to share? We welcome your photos and stories at [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com).



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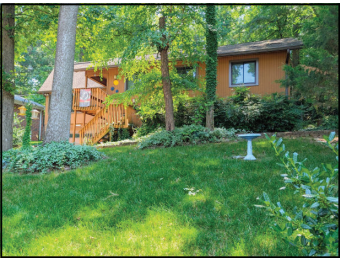


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**College Park** 5 bedroom home in Calvert Hill. Large wooded lot with garage, deck & greenhouse. Fin. Basement with 2 offices. Space galore!



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**Upper Level 1 Bedroom GHI Home** Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Remodeled kitchen. Full-sized washer/dryer in separate laundry room.

**Your Greenbelt Specialists In Roosevelt Center Since 1986**

# GES PTA Prepares Book Sale With Wagons, Truck, Volunteers

by Erica Johns

St. Hugh of Grenoble Church was a busy place on Saturday, August 17, as students pulling little red wagons and adults went about the business of collecting and organizing books for the Greenbelt Elementary School PTA Labor Day Book Sale.

Donors arrived at the back of the church to find four students using wagons to move books from cars to Grenoble Hall. The students were all business: taking boxes of books from drivers, putting boxes in wagons and rolling them down the ramp to the hall.

Inside, volunteers sorted books into categories, cut lids off boxes to prepare them to be stacked atop each other at the sale and placed books in categorized boxes. There were occasional calls for “Everyone to the door!” to clear an accumulation of wagon-delivered books at the door. New this year was the support of Hyattsville book store My Dead Aunt’s Books to identify potentially valuable books for removal from the general sale and consignment to the store. In past years, professional book buyers could be seen Friday night buying books at the opening day \$2 price. This year, the PTA will receive more of these books’ value.

The sale funds PTA support to students and teachers, including art and music supplies, field trips and teacher appreciation gifts. Volunteers expressed appreciation for St. Hugh’s making the hall available for the operation. This visitor sensed teamwork and fun among all involved, including the youngest volunteers.

This was the last of two collection days, but one can still help. The biggest need is for help on Friday, August 30 between 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to move books from St. Hugh’s to Roosevelt Center. Sign up at [bit.ly/4dryW6a](https://bit.ly/4dryW6a) to load and unload the truck. Also,



From left to right, Violet Yashinski, Maren O’Roark, Avery Twedt and Cameron O’Roark are on hand to transport donated books down the ramp behind them to St. Hugh’s Grenoble Hall.



Volunteers work through the organized chaos of preparation for the annual PTA used book sale.

- Photos by Erica Johns



Bob Harper of My Dead Aunt’s Books assesses three 1765 editions of essays by philosopher John Locke.

sign up at [bit.ly/46Y0zSc](https://bit.ly/46Y0zSc) to help staff the sale itself during Saturday, Sunday and Monday shifts.



Councilmember Kristen Weaver helps with book sorting.

PHOTO BY ROBIN CICCONE

## News Review Travels



PHOTO BY ROBERT HINCAPIE AND LAUREL CORRAO

Grace Fisher and Tim King vacation with their News Review in Durango, Mexico.

Julius Pittman enjoys time out on the beach at Ocean City, Maryland, with his Greenbelt News Review.

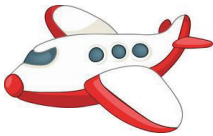


PHOTO BY AMY PITTMAN



PHOTO COURTESY TERRI GOODNOW

Terri Goodnow brought along a copy of the News Review while visiting Kylemore Abbey in County Galway, Ireland.



## FESTIVAL continued from page 1

### Friday, August 30

As the Carnival Midway opens at 6 p.m., the Community Painting Project begins, next to the Book Sale. Participants can let loose their inner artist using acrylic paint on canvas. Bingo starts up on the Community Center lawn, sponsored by Greenbelt Youth Baseball. Special memorial games for bigger cash prize amounts will be announced during the games. Both activities happen each day for the remainder of the Festival.

### Opening Ceremonies

At 6:30 p.m., the Greenbelt Police and color guard will bring in the Opening Ceremonies. This will include introduction of dignitaries, a performance of the National Anthem by Melissa Sites and the Outstanding Citizen presentation. A reception for the 2024 Outstanding Citizen follows at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal

Building.

At 8 p.m., rock 'n' roller Johnny Seaton takes the main stage, winding up the first night.

### Saturday, August 31

First thing on Saturday, a Celebration of Distinguished Service by past members of the Greenbelt City Council will take place at a breakfast reception at the New Deal Café at 8 a.m. Then starting at 9 a.m., the Greenbelt Museum exhibition on the New Deal art of Lenore Thomas opens and goes until 5 p.m. The two-hour Bricks and Blocks Walking Tour, covering Greenbelt history and architecture, leaves from the Museum at 9 a.m. Visit the museum’s website to pre-register.

For kids and kids at heart, at 9:30 a.m. the Pet Show for kids and teens begins on the Community Center lawn. Any kind of pet is welcome. Judging and awards begin at 10 a.m. Several events

begin at 10 a.m. at Braden Field. First up is the diaper derby (kids under 3). Then at 10:45 a.m., the balloon waddle race teeters to a start. To cool down after, the water balloon toss starts at 11 a.m. Then, just in time for lunch, the pie-eating contest is at 11:30 a.m. Midway booths open at 10:30 a.m.

At noon, kids can meet Captain America and Superman on the main stage until 1 p.m., when princesses Anna and Elsa lead a sing-along, followed by a Taylor Tribute (costume optional) until 3 p.m.

After some fair fare for lunch, the Photo Scavenger Hunt, 2-Ball Tournament (kids under 16), and 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament (kids 13 to 17) happen one after the other starting at 1 p.m. in the Youth Center.

At 3:30 p.m., upbeat rock and soul band The Relics take the stage, followed by the legendary Granny and the Boys at 5:30 p.m. The Motown sound band The NoWhere Men close out the night from 8 to 11 p.m. The rest of the all-day activities such

as bingo and the booths close at 10 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY THE RELICS

The Relics, shown here at the Community Church, will play on the Festival stage on Saturday afternoon.